

**From:** Alfred Thompson  
**To:** Microsoft Settlement U.S. Department of Justice  
**Date:** 1/24/02 8:29am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Alfred Thompson  
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Microsoft Settlement U.S. Department of Justice

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Dear Microsoft Settlement U.S. Department of Justice:

The Microsoft trial squandered taxpayers' dollars, was a nuisance to consumers, and a serious deterrent to investors in the high-tech industry. It is high time for this trial, and the wasteful spending accompanying it, to be over. Consumers will indeed see competition in the marketplace, rather than the courtroom. And the investors who propel our economy can finally breathe a sigh of relief.

Upwards of 60% of Americans thought the federal government should not have broken up Microsoft. If the case is finally over, companies like Microsoft can get back into the business of innovating and creating better products for consumers, and not wasting valuable resources on litigation.

Competition means creating better goods and offering superior services to consumers. With government out of the business of stifling progress and tying the hands of corporations, consumers - rather than bureaucrats and judges - will once again pick the winners and losers on Wall Street. With the reins off the high-tech industry, more entrepreneurs will be encouraged to create new and competitive products and technologies.

While Microsoft has not been perfect they have made computers easier to use for everyone. The cost of software is more reasonable today than it ever was. If other products were better than what Microsoft sells than people would be buying them. We have seen the market drop poor products for good ones over and over again. Just look at the history of products that HAD monopolies in spreadsheets and word processing that are now gone because THE MARKET decided a new product was better. The computer market is working, let's leave it alone.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my views.

Sincerely,

Alfred C Thompson II